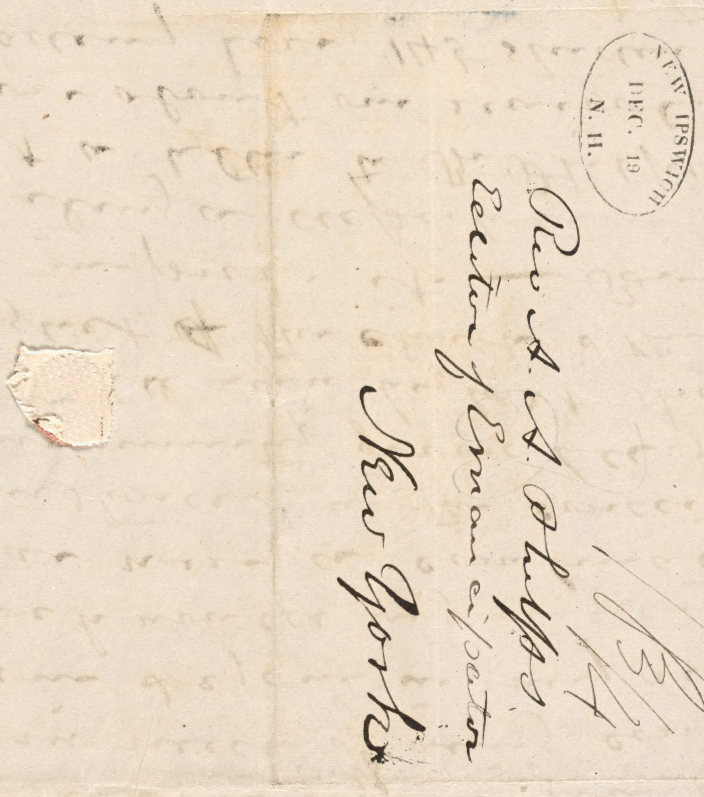
Last week I attended the ordination of D. T. Smith as my successor at Sherburne. My separation from that dear people was a most painful one, but I love now an affectionate people, & am as popular as I ought to be — so much so that I fear I am too much "in God's stead".



on not to hope for & pray for & enjoy as we have never yet seen revivals &c. periodes at intervals in which great numbers shall be converted & in which the opposition of men as social shall be nullified for their conversion. But let the church be uniformly holy, & in no need itself of being converted anew & upon in every revival, & how much would be gained. Then when there were a combination of circumstances in the condition of the community favorable for a revival it would never be lost through the neglect of the church & their unfitness to improve it. — But I am not writing a dissertation on revivals, but a letter to Br Phelps. Will tell him more about our revival. We have an academy here, 145 students last term, 17 conversions, some of them young men of the best talent in the institution. — We have a great church of more than 300 many of them pretty good christians. — We are antislavery here as a tower. Have a good Society, of which I have the honor to be president.

Do not, by any means, publish what I have said of the revival here. I am persuaded it is not for the good of the cause.

since it has occurred to me that God is in this way to correct the misuse which Christians have made of protracted meetings. And to substitute, for the too fitful religion which opposed the privilege (!) of being most of the time in a state of exclusion, that more steady piety which knows no relaxation of efforts & no decline of zeal. We must have more of the religion of Horton Pryse, & Christians must feel, as they have never done yet, their personal individual responsibilities, & their obligations to engage in personal efforts for the conversion of sinners & in earnest wrestling prayer for the divine blessing on their efforts, & this as the uniform service of their entire life, without exclusion or interruption. The potent energies of the church will never be developed till this principle shall have gained a firm conviction & been exemplified in the lives of Christians. I do not mean that we

Do not, by any means, publish what I have said of Mr. Pryse's personal piety. I feel persuaded that I have done him injustice in my remarks on the 9th inst.

Samuel Lee

45

New Ipswich Dec. 15, 1836

Br. Phelps,

I have this moment rec'd your letter, I write now, although it is late, but I should defer it long, for my hands are full, & what is put off till a convenient time is put off long. It is not true, as you have heard that we have a "glorious revival" in the ordinary acceptation of that word, but we have a revival of interest. There may have been 40 conversions since I have been here, & we are expecting the number will increase. There is nothing like the powerful in revivals: there is no rush, no excitement from sympathy with the many, but all is solemn, & our conversations are duly solemn. There were appearances some 6 or 10 weeks since like the beginning of a great work, but the result thus far is as I have described. And the progress that is made is by direct & earnest & protracted prayer & labors.

The cause of anti-slavery is making progress in all this region. We had the first speech of abolitionism that ever was uttered upon a public platform in the town of New Ipswich last week. There is a great change in the minds of the people. Many do not wish to hear it discussed, but we have had a few meetings & they have been well attended. Many who have long held the subject to be sacred from discussion are now willing to hear it. Many are willing to pay for it. Prospect of success.

Mrs. Lee unites in many kind wishes for you & yours.

Yours truly S. Lee